

PATENT
678503-2006.2
USSN 09/612,852

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to update the status of the priority document. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Claims 1, 5, 6 and 8-26 were under consideration in this application. Claims 1, 5, 6 and 8-14 have been canceled. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

It is submitted that the claims, herewith and as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The amendments of the claims, as presented herein, are not made for purposes of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§§§ 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these amendments and additions are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

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REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

An interview with the Examiner, the Examiner's SPE, and a Practice Specialist, prior to a first Office Action on the merits is respectfully requested, with the Examiner respectfully invited to contact the undersigned to arrange a mutually convenient time and manner therefor.

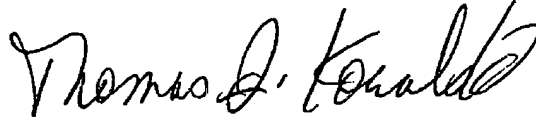
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CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks and amendments herewith, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The undersigned looks forward to hearing favorably from the Examiner at an early date, and, the Examiner is invited to telephonically contact the undersigned to advance prosecution. The Commission is authorized to charge any fee occasioned by this paper, or credit any overpayment of such fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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